private sector, both domestic and foreign. Any company registered in India can apply to the State Governments for grant of prospecting licence/mining lease.

Women PDS shops in India

2162. SHRI N. THALAVAI SUNDARAM: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of women PDS shops in India;

(b) the number of women PDS shops in Tamil Nadu; and

(c) whether any steps are being taken to improve or to provide facilities to women PDS shops in Madras and Kanyakumari districts?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV): (a) to (c) Allotment of Fair Price Shops are done by State Governments/UT Administrations. The figures of women PDS shops are not maintained by Central Government.

Growth rate in the value of production in small scale and cottage sector

2163. SHRI GOPALSINH G. SOLANKI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the annual rate of growth in the value of production in small scale and cottage sector during 1994-95 and the first three months of current financial year;

(b) the annual rate of growth in the capital investment in this sector during this period in the State of Gujarat; and

(c) the annual rate of growth in employment in this sector during this period in Gujarat State?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) The estimated annual rate of growth in the value of production in the small scale sector, at All India Level, for the year 1994-95 was 10.1% and for the first 9 months of 1995-96 it was 10.3%. The growth rate for the first three months of current financial year i.e. 1996-97 is not available.

Similarly annual rate of growth of production in the Cottage Industries (KVI) Sector for the years 1994-95 and 1995-96 was 12.1% and 23.3% (estimated) respectively.

(b) and (c) The additional capital investment and employment in the small scale sector and cottage industries in the State of Gujarat are given below:

Year	Small Scale Industries	Cottage Industries
(A)	*Capital Investment*	*(Rs. lakhs)*
1994-95	36288.25	2763.19
1995-96	38855.46	4093.89
1996-97*	8719.57	1281.78
(B)		*Employment (Nos).*
1994-95	62949	110810
1995-96	54156	111798
1996-97*	9936	8650

*Figures are for first three months of 1996-97.

गेहूं का निर्यात

2164. **श्री राघवजी:** क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) वर्ष 1995 में और 30 जून, 1996 तक किन-किन देशों को कितना-कितना गेहूं निर्यात किया गया; और

(ख) सरकार द्वारा अपने भंडार में से कितना गेहूं और किस दर से बेचा गया?

वाणिज्य मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री बोला बुल्ली रामैया): (क) वर्ष 1995-96 और 1996-97